Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W

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P R 130800Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9287 INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU AMEMBASSY PRETORIA USUN NEW YORK 383

CONFIDENTIAL GABORONE 0123

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BC, RH, UNSC

SUBJECT: GOB MEETING WITH RHODESIAN GOVT REPS ON BORDER VIOLATIONS

REF: 76 GABORONE 2360

- 1. TALKS RESQUESTED BY RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT (SEE REFTEL) WERE HELD AT JAN SMUTS AIRPORT JANUARY 3. SECRETARY TO CABINET STEENKAMP WAS ON GOB DELEGATION (COMPOSITION OF RHODESAINA DELEGATION NOT KNOWN), AND DESCRIBED CONVERSATIONS TO CHARGE AS BEING OF LITTLE REAL VALUE. ONLY LIMITED OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED, SAID STEENKAMP, WERE (A) RHODESIAN REPS DID ADMIT THEY HOLDING FOUR BATSWANA KIDNAPPED FROM WITHIN BOTSWANA; AND (B) THIS ADMISSION WILL PRESUMABLY PROTECT THE DETAINEES FROM DEATH OR PHYSICAL ABUSE (HE NOT SURE WHEN OR EVEN IF THEY WOULD BE RELEASED, AS CHARGES BEING PREFERRED AGAINST THEM).
- 2. STEENKAMP SAID ATMOSPHERE AT TALKS ALMOST "UNBELIEVEABLE", IN THAT RHODESIANS SEENED CONVINCED GOB WAS SYMPATHETIC TO THEIR GUERRILLA PROBLEM AND THAT BEST WAY TO EASE TENSIONS WAS FOR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO MOUNT JOINT PATROLS. GOB DELS HAD DIFFICULT TIME DISABUSING RHODESIANS OF THESE ERRONEOUS NOTIONS. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. EMBASSY POUCHING MEMORANDUM THIS SUBJECT TO ADDEES. ALBERTI

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
NNN					

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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TAGS: PFOR, BC, RH, UNSC

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